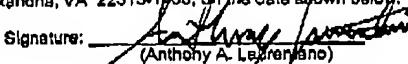


JUL 26 2006

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being transmitted by facsimile to the Patent and Trademark Office, facsimile no. (571) 273-8300 at MS Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: July 26, 2006 Signature: 
(Anthony A. Lepreñano)

Docket No.: NGW-009
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Yasushi Kojima *et al.*

Application No.: 10/623011

Confirmation No.: 4612

Filed: July 17, 2003

Art Unit: 1745

For: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR
PROTECTING FUEL CELL

Examiner: C. K. Lee

AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

MS Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

In response to the Office Action dated April 27, 2006, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 4 of this paper.